



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

April 26, 2017

Vice President, Operations
Entergy Nuclear Operations, Inc.
Indian Point Energy Center
450 Broadway, GSB
P.O. Box 249
Buchanan, NY 10511-0249

SUBJECT: INDIAN POINT NUCLEAR GENERATING UNIT NOS. 2 AND 3 – ACCEPTANCE
OF REQUESTED LICENSING ACTION RE: AMENDMENT OF INTER-UNIT
TRANSFER OF SPENT FUEL (CAC NOS. MF8991 AND MF8992)

Dear Sir or Madam:

By letter dated December 14, 2016 (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Package Accession No. ML16355A066), Entergy Nuclear Operations, Inc. (Entergy, the licensee) submitted a license amendment request for Indian Point Nuclear Generating Unit Nos. 2 and 3. The proposed amendment would revise the technical specifications to relax existing restrictions involving the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission's (NRC's) previous approval for the inter-unit transfer of spent fuel assemblies from the Unit No. 3 to the Unit No. 2 spent fuel pool. The purpose of this letter is to provide the results of the NRC staff's acceptance review of this amendment request. The acceptance review was performed to determine if there is sufficient technical information in scope and depth to allow the NRC staff to complete its detailed technical review. The acceptance review is also intended to identify whether the application has any readily apparent information insufficiencies in its characterization of the regulatory requirements or the licensing basis of the plant.

Consistent with Section 50.90 of Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR), an amendment to the license (including the technical specifications) must fully describe the changes requested, and following as far as applicable, the form prescribed for original applications. Section 50.34 of 10 CFR addresses the content of technical information required. This section stipulates that the submittal address the design and operating characteristics, unusual or novel design features, and principal safety considerations.

By letter dated April 11, 2017 to Entergy (ADAMS Accession No. ML17100A128), the NRC staff identified several informational needs that were necessary to enable the staff to make an independent assessment regarding the acceptability of the proposed amendment in terms of regulatory requirements and the protection of public health and safety and the environment. By letter dated April 19, 2017 (ADAMS Accession No. ML17114A467), Entergy provided a supplement. The NRC staff has found that the supplement, along with the application, provide technical information in sufficient detail to enable the NRC staff to complete its detailed technical review and make an independent assessment regarding the acceptability of the proposed amendment request in terms of regulatory requirements and the protection of public health and safety and the environment. Given the lesser scope and depth of the acceptance review as compared to the detailed technical review, there may be instances in which issues that impact the NRC staff's ability to complete the detailed technical review are identified despite completion

of an adequate acceptance review. You will be advised of any further information needed to support the NRC staff's detailed technical review by separate correspondence.

Based on the information provided in your submittal, the NRC staff has estimated that this licensing request will take approximately 2,500 hours to complete. The NRC staff expects to complete this review by December 2017. If there are emergent complexities or challenges in our review that would cause changes to the initial forecasted completion date or significant changes in the forecasted hours, the reasons for the changes, along with the new estimates, will be communicated during the routine interactions with the assigned project manager.

These estimates are based on the NRC staff's initial review of the application, and they could change due to several factors, including requests for additional information, unanticipated addition of scope to the review, and review by NRC advisory committees or hearing-related activities. Additional delay may occur if the submittal is provided to the NRC in advance or in parallel with industry program initiatives or pilot applications.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (301) 415-1030 or by e-mail to Richard.Guzman@nrc.gov.

Sincerely,



Richard V. Guzman, Senior Project Manager
Plant Licensing Branch I
Division of Operating Reactor Licensing
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket Nos. 50-247 and 50-286

cc: Distribution via Listserv

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ADAMS Accession No.: ML17115A048

**by e-mail*

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